

groups affiliated with western life. Grace was president of the North Park Pioneer Association; she is an Honorary Life Member of the North Park CattleWomen and the Colorado CattleWomen; she was also a member of the Rebekah Lodge in Walden. In his days as a soldier, Oley was part of the famous 10th Mountain Division, later becoming a member of the 10th Mountain Division Association. He was also a member of the Colorado Water Congress.

In addition to the Kohlman's contributions to regional groups affiliated with the cattle industry, they were also honored this year in recognition of fifty years as members of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association. Oley has served as chairman of the Marketing Committee and chairman of the Endowment Trust Fund, and perhaps most impressively, he also served as president of the Board of Directors for two years. Both Oley and Grace are also members of numerous national cattlemen's associations.

As members of the Junior Colorado Cattlemen's Association, they created the Oley and Grace Kohlman JCCA Scholarship, which provides tuition assistance to JCCA college students majoring or minoring in an agriculture related field of study.

Mr. Speaker, it is for their years of passionate dedication to their trade that I recognize Oley and Grace Kohlman before this body of Congress today. I am honored to pay tribute to this tremendous Colorado couple and the wonderful contributions they have made towards the betterment of their community.

H.R. 2861—VA/HUD
APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, today I voted in favor of the Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act of 2004, with serious reservations about its funding levels for veterans' facilities across the country.

Veterans deserve more than this bill, which gives the VA \$2.1 billion less than the House budget resolution requested. It is unconscionable that we're not fully funding the VA. I want to see this legislation receive full funding during conference committee, before it is sent to the President. At a time when we are asking more Americans to sacrifice for our Nation, we should not cut funds for medical care facilities veterans may need upon their return home.

I hope that the conference committee can resolve differences between the House and Senate appropriations bills and will negotiate for better funding of veterans' medical care. A number of veterans' organizations have voiced their disappointment in the bill's low level of funding, including the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Earlier today, I offered an amendment to the bill that mirrored my recently-introduced bipartisan CARES legislation. This bill, H.R. 2808, would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to give Congress 60 days to review any action proposed closure of VA facilities or beds. The legislation comes after the VA sug-

gested that the Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center in Leavenworth may be considered for possible downsizing of beds and services.

Congress needs to be involved in the process of determining the future of the VA health care system, especially if facilities are on the chopping block. Eliminating services in Leavenworth would be a disservice to the men and women who have served our country. In addition, redirecting those patients to the Kansas City VA Hospital, when there is already a six month wait for non-emergency care, would overwhelm a system that is already overwhelmed. After making a sacrifice for our country, our veterans should not be denied access to health benefits they have earned.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH MARIE
COLVILLE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I stand before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to the life and passing of Ruth Marie Colville, an outstanding citizen from my district. Ruth was an active member of the Del Norte, Colorado community and she will be remembered as a respected historian, educator, and mother. Ruth passed away recently at the age of 99, leaving a legacy of leadership for her community to follow. I stand to honor that leadership here today.

Ruth was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania but moved to Del Norte shortly after she graduated from college. Ruth had a fascination with the West, exhibited in her love of movies and Western entertainment. Ruth began her life in Del Norte as a history teacher, calling on her English and History degrees from Wellesley College. Ruth's passion, however, was researching and documenting the life, culture, and exploration of early life in the San Luis Valley.

Ruth's passion would lead her to write several books on the history of the area, and she soon became a respected member of the educational community. For her service, Adams State College opened the Ruth Marie Colville room in the Nielsen library. Del Norte honored her by opening the Ruth Marie Center for the Community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ruth Marie Colville before this Congress and this nation. Her hard work, enthusiasm, and leadership in the community will be sorely missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to Ruth's family and friends as they mourn her loss.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF J. C. EHRLICH CO., INC.

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to bring an authentic American success story to your attention.

The officers and coworkers of the J. C. Ehrlich Company are celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of their company in 1928. The company's founder, Julius C. Ehrlich emigrated to this country from Germany at the age of 17, eventually moving to Reading, Pennsylvania where he had a job as a manufacturer's representative selling insecticides and sprayers. In 1928, there were very few pest control companies in the country and none in Berks County. Mr. Ehrlich's sales were primarily to businesses who would apply the materials themselves.

One day he called one of his customers, a department store in Reading, who had not used the material he had sold them during his last sales visit. When he learned that the custodian had been unable to apply the material, Mr. Ehrlich, wanting to satisfy his customer and not wanting to lose a sale, offered to apply the material himself. At that moment Mr. Ehrlich, who was 56, founded the pest control service organization now known as the J. C. Ehrlich Company. Even today, as the company celebrates its 75th anniversary, the management and coworkers look back at that moment as inspiring their current success by using the same principles that Mr. Ehrlich employed at that department store—Initiative, Ingenuity and Exceeding Customer Expectations.

So while others were contemplating retirement, Julius C. Ehrlich was developing a new business. Even more impressive is the fact that the formative years of Mr. Ehrlich's business were during the early 1930's and the Great Depression.

By 1939, four of Mr. Ehrlich's nephews had immigrated to this country in order to avoid the conditions facing them as Jews in Nazi Germany. In the great traditions of many Americans, these four nephews, Arthur Hammel, Simon Hammel, Alex Ehrlich and Victor Hammel, worked tirelessly. (Unfortunately, Victor Hammel, for whom the company's current President is named, passed away in the early 1940's.) Their work ethic is underscored by the story of their arrival in late December 1937. Without knowing the English language, and without any knowledge of pest control, they started work just five days later. When questioned as to why they waited five whole days from the time they got off the ship to the time they started, Simon Hammel was quick to mention that they lost several days because of a weekend and New Year's Day. Otherwise, they would have started work more quickly. The hard work and determination of this second generation began the expansion of the J. C. Ehrlich Company beyond its Berks County roots. Its second district office was established in Pottsville. The third and fourth offices were in Lancaster and Allentown.

Today the third generation of Ehrlich family management includes three cousins, Victor Hammel, Robert Hammel and Richard Yashek.

The company's owners are quick to point out that it is the dedication of its coworkers that has made J. C. Ehrlich a premier company in its various businesses. In fact, the company states its core belief in its Vision Statement: "Above all else, we value long-lasting relationships with coworkers and customers." Among its current 1,100 coworkers are many who have reaffirmed that sentiment by working for J. C. Ehrlich for 15 years, 20 years, 25 years and more. Today, in addition

to providing pest control services, the company provides termite control, bird control, vegetation management, and bioremediation services. The company also continues Mr. Ehrlich's very first business through a division known as Ehrlich Distribution, which sells products to control pest and vegetation.

As J. C. Ehrlich celebrates its 75th anniversary, there is much to be proud of. Consider these accomplishments:

Named as one of the "Top 25 Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania";

Named "America's Finest Pest Control Company" by Pest Control Technology Magazine;

Has grown to become the largest privately-owned pest control company in North America;

Has 39 local offices servicing 8 Mid-Atlantic States and the District of Columbia; and

Most importantly, 1,100 loyal coworkers providing more than 1 million services per year.

Mr. Speaker, these accomplishments are the proud results of J. C. Ehrlich's culture. This culture can be better understood by knowing how the company's coworkers are celebrating their 75th anniversary. Instead of a major corporate celebration, Ehrlich's 39 offices decided that they would volunteer their time and effort to the local communities that had supported them through the years. With the company's encouragement, coworkers in each district office selected a local charitable organization that they could contribute time to as a group. On the selected day, the office closed and everyone worked as a team to provide community service. In total, this represents approximately 8,000 hours of time Ehrlich coworkers have donated to their local communities. I am pleased to present to you the civic contributions that the men and women of J. C. Ehrlich have made to their communities during this, their 75th anniversary:

PENNSYLVANIA

Allentown—Girl Scout Camp Clean-up.

Clarion—Cleaned park.

Erie—Worked at a soup kitchen for at-risk children.

Harrisburg—Riverbank Cleanup.

Hatfield—Dyed Easter Eggs and assembled baskets for the needy.

Hazleton—Cleaned up a local park.

Johnstown—Donated time to local thrift shop and soup kitchen.

Lancaster—Did clean-up and landscaping for area parks.

Lebanon—Helped to prepare for cancer fundraiser.

Lewistown—Worked on a Habitat for Humanity House.

Philadelphia—Worked at a local soup kitchen.

Pittsburgh—Cleaned up at a local zoo.

Pottstown—Yard clean up for area senior citizens.

Pottsville—Cleaned up a local park.

Reading Pest Control—Riverbank cleanup.

Reading Accounting—Children's Home of Reading.

Reading Administration—Reading Hospital.

Reading Customer Service Center—Volunteered at a local festival.

Reading Audit—Distributing food at Salvation Army.

Reading VMS—Cleaned up a local park.

Reading Technical Trainers—Girl Scout Camp Clean Up.

Reading MIS—Cleaned up at local park, delivered meals on wheels, donated special computer to needy child.

Scranton—Delivered food for Meals on Wheels.

Shamokin—Planted flowers in downtown area.

State College—Helping United Way Day of Caring.

Stroudsburg—Cleaning up local highways.

West Chester—Cleaned up a local park.

Wilkes Barre—Cleaned up a local park.

Williamsport—Cleaned up an old museum.

York—Clean up and landscaping at a local park.

NEW JERSEY

Avenel—Shoreline cleanup.

Bergen County—Donated pest control services to local museum.

Flemington—Fixed and helped to remodel homes for needy residents.

Vineland—Cleaned up a park.

NEW YORK

Binghamton—Worked in a soup kitchen.

Hudson Valley—Beach clean up at a wild life sanctuary.

Middletown—Worked on houses for Habitat for Humanity.

DELAWARE

Delmarva—Worked at a nursing home.

Wilmington—Sorted clothing at a local clothing bank.

MARYLAND

Baltimore—Helped build homes for Chesapeake Habitat.

Gaithersburg—Cleaned up a park.

Hagerstown—Spent time with Senior Citizens at a local center.

Millersville—Participated in United Way Day of Caring.

VIRGINIA

Newington—Served food and cleaned up at a men's shelter.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have several J. C. Ehrlich offices throughout my Congressional District. On a personal level, my family has known the Hammel Family for at least two generations. My father, Joseph Holden and the father of the current owners, Simon Hammel, were friends in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. I am pleased to be able to continue that tradition of friendship. I congratulate them on their 75 years of success and wish them the best for the future.

HONORING MARY JEAN BERG

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this Nation today to pay tribute to a selfless community servant and dedicated doctor from my district, Mary Jean Berg of Ordway, CO. An active member of the Crowley County community, Mary Jean is this year's recipient of the 2003 Rural Healthcare Excellence Award presented by the Colorado Rural Health Center. I would like to join with the Colorado Rural Health Center in congratulating Mary Jean on this distinguished honor.

The Rural Healthcare Excellence Award is presented every year to someone who makes an outstanding contribution to rural healthcare or the rural healthcare system. Mary Jean is an obvious candidate, with over twenty years of rural healthcare experience. She has clinics located throughout Crowley and Otero counties, providing medical care that is closer to home for her patients. Mary Jean goes be-

yond the duty of a doctor; she has been known to make house calls and provide special services to her elderly patients. Mary Jean has also helped bring several new doctors and nurses into the area, ensuring an availability of healthcare professionals for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues here today in applauding Mary Jean's civic-mindedness and in recognizing this prestigious honor. This recognition to Mary Jean for her community service is well deserved, and I am proud to bring her achievements to the attention of this body of Congress today. Congratulations and thanks again, Mary Jean, for your many years of hard work. May you have many more to come!

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF CITY OF CAMPBELL LEADERS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Campbell Mayor Daniel E. Furtado, Councilmember Jeannette Watson, and Campbell Police Captain Russell Patterson. Their work in Campbell, California, has made that city one of our Nation's safest. Today, the National League of Cities commended these leaders for developing a homeland security preparedness program that serves as a national model.

Since the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, each level of government has been faced with the challenge of making our homeland more secure. In developing the City of Campbell's Terrorism and Disaster Preparedness Program, Campbell's leaders have met this challenge by coordinating efforts between government agencies, local schools and universities, and community based organizations in order to respond to disasters quickly and efficiently.

This highly effective program utilizes an "All Hazards" approach, sharing information and resources used to combat both natural disasters and the kind of terrorist attacks our country witnessed two years ago. The program allows for the expansion of an emergency management organization based on the severity of each possible disaster or terrorist attack.

The Mayor, City Council, and Police Department deserve our gratitude. They have made invaluable contributions to the City of Campbell over the past two years.

I hope other cities throughout the United States are able to emulate Campbell's achievements, as America moves forward in protecting our homeland. The people of Campbell are more prepared for catastrophes, and are privileged to have proactive public servants working for them.

TRIBUTE TO JODIE SPRADLIN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before this body of Congress to pay tribute to a remarkable woman from my district. Jodie